

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~  
 COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany  
 TOPIC Laerz Airfield 25X1A

25X1 EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 14 to 20 May 1950

25X1 DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 31 July 1950

REFERENCES                      25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - sketches on ditto

REMARKS  
 This document is hereby regraded to  
 CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
 letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
 Director of Central Intelligence to the  
 Archivist of the United States.  
 Next Review Date: 2008  
 Document No.                       
 No Change in Class.                       
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 Ant.                       
 Date                      1978  
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1. An undetermined number of aircraft of three different types were stationed at Laerz (N 54/U 33) airfield.  
 Type 1: Jet plane with wings that were swept-back, very high rudder assembly, elevator assembly which was swept back and set rather high, air intake about 50 cm in diameter in nose, exhaust under tail assembly, and single seat. (1)  
 Type 2: Jet plane first observed on 18 May 1950. Tail assembly and wings the same as those of conventional fighter aircraft. Only short local flights were seen with this type of aircraft. (2)  
 Type 3: Conventional aircraft fitted with one radial engine, low-wing monoplane, trapezoidal wings, retractable landing gear and tail wheel, single seat, pilot's cockpit in line with wings, antenna from cockpit to tail assembly, painted green. (3)
2. The following flying activity was observed from 14 June - 20 June 1950:  
 On 14 May 1950: No flying  
 On 15 May 1950: Intensive flying with the jet planes with swept-back wings; they took off and landed individually and practiced formation flying in groups of 10 to 12. There was night flying with single-engine planes after 9 p.m.  
 On 16 May 1950: Many local flights with jet planes and conventional aircraft were seen.  
 On 17 May 1950: No flying. A twin-engine plane landed at 11:30 a.m. It had an in-line engine, single cockpit, low wings, and was painted dark green.  
 On 18 May 1950: Formation flying with jet aircraft from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 On 19 May 1950: Little flying with jet and conventional aircraft after 10 a.m. One formation of 12 jet planes was seen.

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On 20 May 1950: Flying with jet aircraft from noon to 3 p.m. The planes assembled in groups of 10 to 12 over the field. (4)

3. Shipping crates for jet planes were stored at the field. No aircraft shipments were observed to arrive during the period of observation. One jet plane minus wings is shipped in one crate, with its nose and tail projecting at the ends, but the ends are protected by attached convex structures. Two wings each are shipped in such a crate. (5)
4. A sandy hill located between Laerz and Rechlin (N 54/U 33) was being used as a target range for air-to-ground firing. The ground personnel of the field were billeted in Laerz. The flying personnel and the officers with their dependents lived in Rechlin in a special district. [REDACTED]

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5. A radar station was near Rechlin airfield. The set could be tilted 15 degrees, and it rotated by means of a motor. It was in operation regularly during flying. The radio station also had two trucks, well camouflaged and dug into the earth about 1 1/2 meters, in addition to a passenger car. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] One of the trucks was connected with the radio masts by wires. A telephone line led from one of the radio trucks to the guardhouse of Rechlin airfield. The radio station was occupied at all times by four soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. (6)

25X1A ( [REDACTED] Comments.

- (1) Type 14 jet plane.
- (2) Probably type 16 jet plane.
- (3) LA-9.
- (4) Previously jet planes made individual flights primarily. This report implies that training seems now to center around formation flying by squadrons.
- (5) The presence of such shipping crates is confirmed. No aircraft were recently observed arriving in such crates. Other sources observed that two crates are needed for the shipping of one plane. According to previous information, a total of 50 to 60 jet planes is stationed in Laerz. In addition to these planes about 60 conventional fighters are stationed at this field. Two

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Two fighter regiments are stationed in Laerz. [REDACTED]

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(6) The radar set was previously reported. [REDACTED]

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The attached sketches show that this set is of the same type as those observed in Finow, Zerbst, Alt-Loennowitz and Wittstock. The antenna system of this set is, to a certain extent, rotatable around its horizontal axis. The fitting of the dipoles at the rotatable ears is probably not sketched correctly. Several [REDACTED] agree that these dipoles are fitted as shown in sketch 2b, Annex 1. The set is believed to be a fighter control radar set used by fighter division headquarters. The fighter corps headquarters in Wittstock is also believed to be equipped with such a set, although no such set has been seen with this headquarters to date.

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[REDACTED] No such radar sets have been observed to date with bomber or ground attack units. For sketches of radar set and installation, see Annexes 1 and 2.

- 2 Annexes: (1) Radar set at Laerz Airfield  
(2) Radar set at Laerz Airfield

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